

majority do not show improvement after the three-month period of observation and surgical treatment is therefore recommended. The presence of a hearing loss makes earlier surgical intervention advisable to provide the best chance of reversing the hearing loss. The availability of a benign surgical procedure to relieve the vertigo and reverse hearing loss in these patients is certainly an improvement over the previous management of prolonged observation. Patients who are afflicted with vertigo and hearing loss after head trauma thus may have a pathologic disorder that is identifiable, surgically accessible and curable in a high percentage of cases.

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Medical Practice Question

EDITOR'S NOTE: From time to time medical practice questions from organizations with a legitimate interest in the information are referred to the Scientific Board by the Quality Care Review Commission of the California Medical Association. The opinions offered are based on training, experience and literature reviewed by specialists. These opinions are, however, informational only and should not be interpreted as directives, instructions or policy statements.

Immunotherapy for Cancer

QUESTION:

In the treatment of cancer, is the following regimen of "immunotherapy" accepted practice: bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) titrated with purified protein derivative (PPD) response; autogenous vaccines made from progenitor cryptocides; purified antigen; custom formula made from sheep spleen extract; injections of gamma globulin, cyanocobalamin (vitamin B₁₂) and liver extracts, and megavitamin therapy?

OPINION:

In the opinion of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Internal Medicine, the following regimen of immunotherapy for the treatment of cancer is not considered accepted medical practice: bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine titrated with purified protein derivative (PPD) response; autogenous vaccines made from progenitor cryptocides; purified antigen; custom formula made from sheep spleen extract; injections of gamma globulin, cyanocobalamin (vitamin B₁₂) and liver extracts, and megavitamin therapy.

This regimen is unproved scientifically and the panel members do not condone its use.